

**Music Theatre International**

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**Audition Central: Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.**

**Script: Grasshopper**

**SIDE 1**

**LADYBUG**

It feels quite wonderful to be free of that wretched hillside.

**EARTHWORM**

And Spiker and Sponge.

**SPIDER**

Did you know they killed my fiancé?

**LADYBUG**

No! 

**SPIDER**

Yes! And then the gigantic one... she ate him.

**LADYBUG**

Horrible!

*(CENTIPEDE snores loudly.)*

**EARTHWORM**

*(afraid)*

What was that?! What **WAS THAT**?!

**JAMES**

It was just Centipede snoring.

**CENTIPEDE**

*(waking)*

What? What's going on? Why did the human say my name?

**SPIDER**

Tell them what happened to you, Centipede.

**CENTIPEDE**

Blah, who cares.

**SPIDER**

We're sharing!

**CENTIPEDE**

Fine! My family was in the sock and shoe racket. We're pretty famous in the bug world. Til Spiker and Sponge sprayed everyone with insecticide in the great raid of fifty-nine.

**LADYBUG**

Those two monsters hated everything. Even ladybugs. Who doesn't like ladybugs?

**GRASSHOPPER**

I like ladybugs.

*(Awkward silence as LADYBUG and GRASSHOPPER share coy glances.)*

**JAMES**

*(a realization)*

Spiker and Sponge were horrible to everyone.

**CENTIPEDE**

Spiker and Sponge were no different than any of you humans.

**GRASSHOPPER**

Centipede, James is one of us.

**CENTIPEDE**

That is a human boy. His kind pulls off our legs, or burns us with magnifying glasses! He is **NOT** one of us! He will **NEVER** be one of us!

*(CENTIPEDE climbs up to the crow's nest, alone.)*

**LADYBUG**

Ignore him, James. His type are pests.

**CENTIPEDE**

*(calling from the ladder)*

And your type are snobs!

**LADYBUG**

James, you haven't said anything about your parents. Where are they?

**GRASSHOPPER**

They must be very worried about you.

*(JAMES becomes silent, staring at the ground. SPIDER, LADYBUG and GRASSHOPPER sense something is very wrong.)*

**SPIDER**

James, it's alright. You can tell us.

**JAMES**

My parents were in a horrible accident, and now they're... gone.